

PRESS RELEASE
March 2020 STATEWIDE
PRIMARY and PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION
ABSENTEE VOTING

Qualified voters can apply for an absentee ballot that can be cast by mail, commercial carrier or in person at the absentee election manager's office, if he or she makes application in writing not less than five days prior to the election and meets one of the following requirements:

- A. The voter expects to be out of the county or state on Election Day.
- B. The voter has any physical illness or infirmity which prevents his or her attendance at the polls, whether he or she is within or without the county on the day of election.
- C. The voter expects to work a shift which has at least 10 hours which coincide with the hours the polls are open at his or her regular polling place.
- D. The voter is enrolled as a student at an educational institution located outside the county of his or her personal residence (attendance) at which prevents his or her attendance at the polls.
- E. The voter is a member of, or spouse or dependent of a member of, the armed forces of the United States or is similarly qualified to vote absentee pursuant to the Federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff.
- F. The voter has been appointed as an election officer or named as a poll watcher at a polling place other than his or her regular polling place.
- G. The voter is a caregiver for a family member to the second degree of kinship who is confined to their home.
- H. The voter is incarcerated in prison or jail, but has not been disqualified by conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude as defined by T17-3-30.1

Under ACT 2019-507, absentee ballot applications must now be accompanied by a copy of current, valid photo identification, unless the voter is exempt from the identification requirement.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY: Any registered elector who requires emergency treatment of a licensed physician within 5 days of an election may apply for an emergency absentee ballot for the election and may vote by returning the absentee ballot no later than noon on the day the election is held. The attendant physician shall describe and certify the circumstances as constituting an emergency on a special form designed by the Secretary of State and provided by his or her office to local absentee election managers. The special form shall be attached to the application.

BUSINESS EMERGENCY: Any registered voter whose name appears on the poll list of qualified voters may vote by an emergency absentee ballot if he or she is required by his or her employer under unforeseen circumstances to be out of the county on an emergency business trip on Election Day. The voter shall apply for an emergency absentee ballot at the office of the absentee election manager no later than the close of the business day one day prior to the election. The applicant shall complete and file an application form for emergency absentee voters. The form shall contain an affidavit which the applicant shall sign or swear acknowledging that he or she was not aware of the out-of-county business requirement prior to five days before the election.

Applications for absentee voting are available:

- Absentee election manager's office (Macon County Circuit Clerk David Love, 101 East Rosa Parks Plaza, Suite 300, Tuskegee. AL 36083),
- Secretary of State's web page: www.alabamavotes.gov
- United States Armed Forces members, including spouses, should contact their commanding Officer for an application or may go online: www.alabamavotes.gov

Note: To be issued an absentee ballot in primary elections voters must specify on the application if they want a Democrat or Republican ballot.

Separate applications for absentee ballots are required for elections which are more than 42 days apart, except as to individuals voting pursuant to the Federal Uniformed and Overseas Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff. **These elections only require one application, but you must select both Primary and Primary Runoff.**

Completed absentee applications must provide the Alabama residence where the voter is registered to vote, even if the ballot is to be mailed to another address where the applicant voter regularly receives mail. **If you have moved and have not updated your polling place you should contact the local Board of Registrars and update your address prior to applying for an absentee ballot.**

Any completed application must be returned by the voter in person or be sent by mail or commercial carrier. **No one, not even a family member, can return another person's application.**

Each application must be mailed separately. Multiple applications cannot be mailed in the same envelope, even if the voters live at the same address.

The absentee election manager may not give any person access to completed and filed

applications for absentee ballots. This information is not a matter of public record. It should be considered privileged information just the same as voter registration applications.

The absentee election manager shall forward absentee ballots by US Mail to the applicant's residence address or upon written request of the voter, to the address where the voter regularly receives mail or by handing the ballot to the voter in person or, in the case of medical emergency voting, to his or her designee in person.

VOTERS MUST COMPLETE ALL THE INFORMATION ON THE AFFIDAVIT OF THE ABSENTEE VOTER ENVELOPE.

IF THE VOTERS AFFIDAVIT IS NOT SIGNED (OR MARKED), AND IF THE AFFIDAVIT IS NOT WITNESSED BY TWO WITNESSES 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER OR A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO ACKNOWLEDGE OATHS, PRIOR TO BEING DELIVERED OR MAILED TO THE ABSENTEE ELECTION MANAGER, THE BALLOT WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

- **Saturday January 18, 2020** Absentee voting Statewide Primary Election
- **Monday January 20, 2020** STATE HOLIDAY Martin Luther King Birthday
- **Friday February 14, 2020** Last day to hand deliver voter registration to Board of Registrars for Primary Election
- **Monday February 17, 2020** STATE HOLIDAY Washington/Jefferson Birthday
- **Thursday February 27, 2020: last day** voters may apply for a regular absentee ballot for the PRIMARY Election.
- **Monday, March 2, 2020:** Last day voters can return in person, his or her regular absentee ballot. No one, not even a family member, can return another person's ballot, (except a medical emergency voter named designee).
 - * ALSO, mailed ballots must be postmarked by the United State Postal Service no later than this date.
- **TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020 ELECTION DAY:**
 - * Mailed ballots must be received in mail no later than noon this date.
 - * Voted medical emergency ballots delivered by the voter's designee, must be received no later than noon today.
- **THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020:** Last day to apply for an absentee ballot for the PRIMARY RUNOFF election.
- **TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020: PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION DAY**